MEETING SUMMARY, FORMER NANSEMOND ORDNANCE DEPOT (FNOD) RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

To: RAB Members, Interested Parties

From: Adriane James, U.S. Army Corps Government Co-Chair

Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc., RAB Facilitator

Re: June 2, 2005 RAB Meeting Summary

RAB Members Present: Affiliation:

Lisa Hamilton GE

Kemp Littlefield Lockheed Martin

Debbie Miller VDEQ

Marian "Bea" Rogers

Community Co-Chair
Steven Wright for Tom O'Grady

City of Suffolk

Carl Serrette Burbage Grant

Rob Thomson EPA VDOT

Cherie Walton Reactives Management Corporation

Bob Williams Dominion

RAB Facilitator Present:

Sandra Chaloux CEC, Inc.

RAB Members Absent:

John Bucklin GE
Tim Fink TCC

Adriane James USACE, Govt. Co-Chair

Bruce Johnson Respass Beach
Kevin Mattonen Cedar Crest Hall
David Saunders Bennett's Creek

Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order

(Sandra Chaloux – CEC, Inc.)

The meeting was called to order and the meeting attendees introduced themselves. No corrections were noted on the April RAB meeting summary.

RAB Business

Community Co Chair Comments (Bea Rogers)

Bea told the RAB that she attended the Isaac Walton League meeting on May 18 with Debbie Miller and Cheryl Fromme. She said she wants to follow-up with some of the people she met at the meeting. One of the members of this organization worked at FNOD when it was an active ordnance depot. This person's name was passed to the Corps so that he could be interviewed. Bea also reported that Adriane attended Bea's local Ruritan club meeting on May 16 and gave a talk about the efforts at FNOD. Bea said that it was very well received and that Adriane did a very good job.

Sandra thanked Bill Hudson for forwarding a new Citizen's Guide to Understanding Institutional Controls. Copies of the document were available to meeting participants. Sandra also pointed out that Adriane had provided copies of information on the EPA's 2005 Community Involvement Conference for RAB members who were interested in attending. The conference was in Buffalo, NY from July 12-15.

Recap of Public Affairs Work Group Meeting

The FNOD Public Affairs Work Group met on May 2 to map out public affairs activities for the remainder of 2005. Sandra reported on the outcomes from this meeting to the

RAB. The work group decided to postpone the FNOD public meeting until October 6. The Corps should be ready to present information on the Track K Proposed Plan by then. The public meeting will go from 6 until 7 p.m. and the RAB meeting will follow. The next FNOD newsletter will go out in September to advertise the October public meeting. (Sandra provided RAB members copies of the May Restoration Newsletter which was just sent out in the mail). The PA Work Group also wanted to know if the RAB would be interested in doing another site tour. Sandra pointed out that it has been a year- and-ahalf since the board has been taken out to see the sites where the Corps has been working. The RAB was interested in doing a site tour on Dec. 2 at 10 a.m., the morning after the Dec. 1 RAB meeting, weather permitting. If the weather is inclement, the site tour will be postponed until the morning after the Feb. RAB meeting. The PA Work Group also discussed fact sheets to be prepared for the project on the following topics: 1) Land Use Controls, 2) OE Update, 3) RAB fact sheet, 4) Track K Proposed Plan, 5) Project Accomplishments. Sandra asked for the RAB's input on these fact sheet topics. No input was given. Sandra said that these fact sheets will be produced by the end of October unless the RAB comes up with a topic they'd rather us do. The next PA work group meeting will be on August 16th at the Corps' Norfolk District office in the 4th floor conference room between 2:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Landowner Updates

<u>Lockheed Martin</u> – They are officially open and have had their ribbon cutting ceremony. <u>VDOT</u> – Nothing new.

<u>Dominion</u> – Nothing new.

<u>City</u> – From an economic development standpoint, the area's still a hot area right now. The only activity that's being proposed in the immediate area is the Bridgeway Three building. Stephen Wright said that the City is hoping for Phase 4 and 5, and that should happen in 12 to 18 months. The developers have an aggressive plan to continue developing around the lake, and we will eventually have 6 buildings.

Regulator Updates (EPA-Rob Thomson, VDEQ- Debbie Miller)

Rob said that from EPA's perspective, they are happy with the progress at the site, both from munitions response standpoint as well as hazardous waste response. "We're happy with the schedules and progress to date." Debbie said that VDEQ is also happy with what's going on here. "The work that we need to be done is getting done. It would be great if we had a bunch of money to do it all at once, but we don't, and how the Corps is handling it is working. We're getting into the areas where we need to be. We're finding new sites and starting to look at those. So I think the Corps is doing a great job and is just great to work with. That makes it a very nice site to be on, to be working with people that you can trust."

Bea complimented Debbie and Cheryl for their presentation at the Isaac Walton League. There was a great deal of audience participation at the meeting, they spent 2 hours talking with Debbie and Cheryl about the FNOD project.

RAB Rule Update

Sandra told the RAB that she followed up with DoD about the RAB rule after the last RAB meeting. The public comment period for the Proposed RAB rule ended on March 29, 2005. Following this comment period, DoD will respond to comments and prepare a Final Rule. DoD will develop additional guidance once the Rule is finalized and will promulgate it in the Code of Federal Regulations. The DoD representative that Sandra contacted stated that it could take up to a year before the RAB rule is finalized. Sandra forwarded this email to all the RAB members. DoD's web site address on the RAB rule is https://www.denix.osd.mil/denix/Public/News/OSD/RAB/rabrule.html.

Army Corps Update (George Mear-USACE)

George provided RAB members copies of the FNOD RAB presentation, the FNOD background sampling presentation, the FNOD site summary table, and executive summaries for work plans for Area of Concern (AOC) 10 and 11, and the Land Use Agreement with TCC.

The Corps is still working on finalizing Land Use Agreements with the City of Suffolk and GE. Cheryl and George explained the Corps' project priorities for the RAB. The following is the list of priorities from top to bottom in order of priority:

- Munitions Areas
- Source Areas 1-6
- AOCs with suspect releases including:
 - Nansemond River Beachfront
 - Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - Offshore Areas
 - o TCC Lake
 - Area J Lake
 - o Arsenic Area Near GE
 - Renovation Plant Area
- Group B AOCs
- Group C AOCs
- Group D AOCs

There are 6 Source Areas and 23 Areas of Concern identified at FNOD. Rick pointed out that the Corps is conducting work in 5 of the 6 Source Areas currently. One of the Source Areas has already been completed and delisted from EPA's National Priority List. Group B, C, & D AOCs have been grouped and prioritized based on geographic location, level of potential exposure, and planned development schedules. The Corps does not know what, if any risks exist at these sites. These AOCs have been identified as potential concerns based on historical aerial photo reviews and site records. Rick said that the Corps hopes to begin site investigations at all the AOCs in Group B, C, and D by the end of the year.

George provided an update of activities at each of the sites on the Site Summary table. The following are some of the highlights.

<u>TNT Area</u> (Source Area 1) – The Corps is about to begin a Remedial Investigation at this site. This will include a third round of groundwater sampling. The work plan for this effort is due to the Corps by the end of June.

<u>James River Beachfront</u> (Source Area 2) – The Corps is conducting a Remedial Investigation at the JRB and has just completed a screening level ecological risk assessment and a nearshore geophysical survey for this site. The report from this effort is now being distributed to the regulators.

Impregnite Kit Area (Source Area 3) – Work has been completed at this site and the soil has been de-listed from EPA's National Priority List. The groundwater will be de-listed later, once the groundwater for the whole of FNOD is fully understood and it is clear that there is no possibility of migration of contamination from another site.

 $\frac{\text{Horseshoe Pond}}{\text{Horseshoe Pond}} \ (\text{Source Area 4}) - \text{The Corps will be draining the Horseshoe Pond in the next month to investigate some magnetic anomalies at the bottom of the pond to determine if the anomalies are ordnance items . The Corps will also collect some soil samples as part of the Remedial Investigation at the site.}$

<u>Main Burning Ground</u> (Source Area 5) – This is where all the ordnance investigations are currently focused. This site was used to burn and dispose of ordnance items brought back from World War I and II.

<u>Track K Dump & Pesticide Drum Area</u> (Source Area 6) –The Corps plans to have a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan for the Track K Dump (Tire Pile/Paint Can Area) in October. One of the alternatives being considered is no further action. The Corps is expecting a preliminary draft of the RI for the Pesticide Drum Area within a month.

The RAB members found the site summary table useful. Bea suggested that George shade the sites that have had changes since the last meeting and just discuss those at the next meeting –instead of covering all the sites each time.

Cheryl provided an update on the Arsenic Investigation which has been designated as AOC 22. Bea pointed out that a gentleman at the Isaac Walton League meeting said that the depot had a washout area right underneath the GE plant in this vicinity. Bea said that maybe the washout area ran out to the Horseshoe Pond. Cheryl explained that EPA Region III noticed, while reviewing GE's Investigation Report for their monitoring well 18-A and the Corps' Investigation Report for monitoring well 26, that both wells had similar total arsenic concentrations. GE had also found dissolved phase arsenic in monitoring well 18-A. Subsequently, the Corps tested nearby monitoring wells and also found dissolved phase arsenic. The arsenic concentrations have ranged from 4.9 ppb to 8.8 ppb. Cheryl said that historical aerial photos show a rail line going through this site. Cheryl said that the Corps has tested soil in the area and they have not found results much above background levels. The Corps doesn't know if the arsenic is naturally occurring or if there is a source causing the arsenic in the groundwater. The Corps needs to determine the extent of the affected groundwater. The Corps has completed the Site Investigation phase at AOC 22 to determine presence or absence of contaminants. The Corps has confirmed a presence of contamination. The next phase, the RI, determines the nature and extent of it.

Rick pointed out that all the RAB members received a CD that contains the historical photos for the sites about a year ago. Bob asked how old the Horseshoe P ond was. Cheryl said that the Horseshoe P ond began being used in the 1940s as a disposal area. The Corps has found laboratory glassware, bottles, films, some impregnate kits, and assorted debris at the site. Cheryl said that the Corps needs to move its investigation to the northeast.

At AOC 23, the renovation plant area, the Corps has found some explosive compounds as well as volatile organics in extremely low concentrations in groundwater in one of the monitoring wells. Cheryl showed the RAB a pit, a standing area, and a possible impoundment from aerial photos taken in the 1940s and 1950s in the vicinity of the renovation plant area. The Corps has also found and removed some ordnance items such as hand grenades from this area. The Corps is going to look at this entire area as one Area of Concern.

Background Study (Cliff Opdyke –USACE, Baltimore)

The Corps conducted a background sampling effort at FNOD in 1999 to establish background conditions for the site. One of the purposes for background studies is to find out the naturally occurring inorganic constituents in site soils. Cliff said that they don't expect to see too many dissolved phase inorganics (such as Arsenic) in groundwater. To properly ascertain the risk from site soils, you have to be able to understand what the contribution is from naturally occurring inorganic concentrations. Naturally occurring chemicals are minerals, inorganic elements that come from parent bedrock or other geological conditions that have not been influenced by human activity. It can also be due

to riverine events, minerals that were brought down from upland areas. The background sampling effort leads to developing background data sets, which the project team uses to compare with site sampling data, and to conduct statistical tests. These data sets are used in the site soil screening process, the human health risk assessment, and the ecological risk assessment.

There were two soils ampling events conducted for the FNOD background study, one in 1999 and one in 2002. The soils samples were collected fairly close to the Impregnite Kit Area and were determined to be clean. Soils were sampled for VOCs, SVOCs, Pesticides, PCBs, Metals, Explosives at 2 depths (0 to 6 inches) and 3 to 7 feet at 12 boring locations. Only metals were tested in soil in 2002.

Groundwater sampling was collected in the winter of 1999 and the spring of 2000. The well locations for the background sampling were located down the southwestern side of the FNOD property. Groundwater was sampled for the same constituents from 9 locations in Round 1 and 6 locations in Round 2.

The soil background levels for arsenic (1.1-22.7 ppm) were below regional Virginia background levels (0.1-97 ppm). EPA's Residential Risk Based Concentration for Arsenic is soil is .38 ppm. Surface soil and vadose soils may be combined to compare site soils. Background soils should be used to compare inorganic concentrations when appropriate so that proper remedial action is taken. Cliff said that the team doesn't want to clean up to levels below background levels.

Ed Wallingford asked how background levels are used to determine institutional controls. Ed asked at what point the Corps is obligated to communicate a risk once one is identified. The Corps will continue to report site sampling data to EPA, DEQ, the RAB, and the public at RAB meetings and in other public information mediums such as the project newsletter, website, and local media. Sandra asked Cheryl and George if they could do a report on groundwater sitewide at the next RAB meeting. This would be a review of what the Corps knows about the nature and extent of anything in the groundwater at the various FNOD sites where the Corps has been doing groundwater sampling. Cheryl said she would have to check and let us know. George suggested that the October RAB may be better timing for this presentation so the team could include the results from the upcoming TNT area sampling effort.

Munitions Response Update (Rick Aiken- J.M. Waller & Associates)

The Corps has completed munitions investigations along Welner Drive on GE property but is still investigating TCC property to the north. The Corps is continuing munitions investigations in the center grids at the Main Burning Ground on GE property. These grids (100 foot by 100 foot) contain a lot of debris and take 45 to 60 days each to clear manually. Zapata has tested site soils in the sifter and were encouraged with the results. Now Zapata is trying to design and build a cap for the sifter which is the last safety requirement for the equipment. Cliff Walden also reported that his company has removed over 5,000 pounds of Asbestos that was found in the Main Burning Ground where they were working. From January through April 2005, the Corps removed 16 discarded military munitions items from FNOD. Rick said that the Corps will present its plan for the Nansemond River Beachfront munitions investigation at the next meeting. Bea asked if the Corps was considering putting rip rap in that area to stabilize the beach from erosion. Cheryl said that the Corps didn't want to do this right now since they are in the process of conducting the Remedial Investigation and they don't want to cover up what they are investigating. Bea expressed concern because this is supposed to be a rough hurricane season. Zapata will be draining the Horseshoe Pond this month to investigate the anomalies.

Sandra asked the RAB if we are outgrowing the Bon Secours meeting room. Kemp Littlefield suggested that Sandra come and look at a meeting room in the Lockheed Martin office building to see if it would work.

Public Comments

None noted.

Agenda items for the next RAB meeting (August 4, 2005):

- Groundwater Report
- Track K & Pesticide Drum Area Updates
- Horseshoe Pond Update
- Nansemond River Beachfront Update
- Mechanical Sifter Update
- Funding Update

Action items:

- Get RAB Notebook to Bob Williams (Dominion)
- Bring Aerial Photo CDs for Debbie Miller & new RAB members

Meeting Adjourned around 8:45 p.m.

Others Present:	Affiliation:
Rick Aiken	J.M Walller & Associates
Cheryl Fromme	USACE, Project Engineer
George Mears	USACE, Acting Project Manager
Art Collins	HRPDC
Bill Hudson	EPA
Cliff Walden	Zapata Engineering
Cliff Opdyke	USACE, Baltimore District
Harry Wheeler	TechLaw Inc.
Patrick Mumey	Thalhimer/GE Real Estate Agent